DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OF PORTO RICO
Office of the Commissioner
San Juan

Circular Letter No. 57.

February 1, 1916.

To Supervising Principals.

Ladies and Gentlemen:--

I am informed that certain supervisors appear indifferent to the efforts of the Department of Justice in the matter of investigating the extortion of money from teachers for political purposes. The Department of Education is vitally interested in the success of this investigation and in bringing about a complete emancipation of the teachers of Porto Rico from political oppression in the form of forced money contributions for political purposes. You are, therefore, directed to give the teachers of your districts every ebcouragenebt to come forward and give the exact facts when called upon to give testimony by the various prosecuting attorneys now conducting investigations. You yourselves should assist the authorities in giving such clues as you may have in your possession and show not only the teachers but the peopke of your respective communities that you, as representatives of the Department, are taking a firm stand on the side of righteousness in this matter.

I may say that large numbers of teachers in all parts of the Island have given evidence which is believed will bring about the eradication of this evil and the punishment

of any offenders. The Department will use every effort to protect teachers who testify the truth in this matter. You will take pains to warn teachers against committing perjury when called upon to testify. Copies of affidavits presented by teachers will be furnished the Department of Education by the Department of Justice.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) P. G. Miller
Commissioner of Education

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